

Message Text

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CINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 075734

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT NATO 2028 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MADRID
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QUOTE

S E C R E T USNATO 2028

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SP, NATO
SUBJ: SPAIN AND NATO

REF: STATE 071092 (NOTAL)

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECDEF, USNMR SHAPE AND CINCEUR

1. REFTTEL ADVISES THAT DEPARTMENT DOES NOT THINK CIRCUMSTANCES
ARE NOW RIGHT FOR U.S. TO INITIATE BROAD EVALUATION OF SPAIN'S
RELATIONSHIP TO NATO; RATHER DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT IS
PREFERABLE TO WAIT AND SEE IF PRIMIN ARIAS DELIVERS IN ANY
MEANINGFUL MANNER ON HIS PROMISES TO LIBERALIZE DOMESTIC
POLITICAL SYSTEM. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT USG
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BEGIN NOW REPEAT NOW TO PLAN AND POSITION OURSELVES TO INSURE

THAT CIRCUMSTANCES ARE RIGHT AT TIME WHEN U.S. MAY FIND IT
USEFUL TO PUSH THE SPANISH CASE WITH OUR NATO ALLIES.

2. SOME POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION IS SINE QUA NON FOR INDUCING
CERTAIN ALLIES TO REASSESS NATO-SPAIN RELATIONSHIP. WHEN SUCH
WELCOME INITIAL EVENTS BEGIN TO MANIFEST THEMSELVES IT IS UNLIKELY
THEIR MAGNITUDE AND VISIBILITY WILL IN AND OF THEMSELVES
INDUCE CERTAIN ALLIES TO REVERSE CURRENT POLICIES AND RECOMMEND
THAT NATO EMBRACE SPAIN. IT SEEMS MUCH MORE LIKELY THAT
LIBERALIZING EVENTS-WHICH ONE MIGHT DESCRIBE AS A DESIRABLE
TREND NEEDING ENCOURAGEMENT-MIGHT AFFORD DOUBTFUL ALLIES
FACE-SAVING EXCUSE WHICH WOULD PERMIT NATO TO ESTABLISH SOME
LINKS WITH SPAIN ON BASIS OF PRAGMATIC SECURITY REPAALITIES.

3. THEREFORE, RATHER THAN HOPING FOR
FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS TO UNFOLD, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT:
A) THE U.S. SHOULD TAKE INVENTORY NOW OF WAYS IN WHICH SPAIN ALREADY
CONTRIBUTES TO EUROPEAN, MEDITERRANEAN AND ATLANTIC SECURITY; B) THE
U.S. HELP
SPAIN IDENTIFY ACTIONS LATTER COULD OFFER TO TAKE NOW OF A
COORDINATION NATURE THAT COULD SIGNIFICANTLY AUGMENT ITS EXISTING
SECURITY CONTRIBUTION; C) THE U.S. HELP SPAIN DESCRIBE SIMILAR FUTURE
ACTIONS
MILITARILY ADVANTAGEOUS TO EUROPEAL ALLIES THAT SPAIN MIGHT PROPOSE
AS "PRICE FOR A LINKAGE ARRANGEMENT WITH
NATO; AND D) THE U.S. AND SPAIN WORK JOINTLY ON VARIOUS PROPOSALS
FOR INITIAL MINIMAL LINKAGE BETWEEN SPAIN AND NATO AND BEGIN
SPECIFICALLY TO PREPARE AND DOCUMENT THE CASE FOAVORING EACH PRO-
POSAL.

4. NO DOUBT U.S. AUTHORITIES COULD IN A LARGE MEASURE RESPOND
NOW TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
-WHAT IS SPAIN ALREADY DOING MILITARILY THAT CONSTITUTES A CONCRETE
CONTRIBUTION TOWARD EUROPEAN AND ATLANTIC SECURITY?
-WHAT LINKS, HOWEVER TENUOUS, PRESENTLY EXIST BETWEEN SPANISH
AND NATO REPEAT NATO MILITARY ACTIVITIES?
-WHAT MILITARY LINKS ALREADY EXIST BILATERALLY BETWEEN
SPAIN AND VARIOUS NATO ALLIES?
-IS THERE ANY EXCHANGE AND LIAISON IN THE FIELD OF MILITARY
INTELLIGENCE?

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-ARE THERE EXISTING PRACTICES IN THE FIELD OF ARMAMENT
DEMONSTRATIONS AND SALES CAMPAIGNS WHICH AMOUNT TO SOME FORM OF
SPANISH LINKS TO NATO COUNTRIES?
-ARE THERE MILITARY PERSONNEL EXCHANGE AND TRAINING
ARRANGEMENTS WHICH PROMOTE THE PROCESS OF MUTUAL EDUCATION AND
PERHAPS DOCTRINAL STANDARDIZATION?
-ARE THERE OTHER EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS WHICH MIGHT ADD TO
THE LIST OF THINGS WE WILL ONE DAY WISH TO CONCENTRATE ATTENTION

ON?

5. WITH THE ANSWERS IN HAND TO THE QUESTIONS IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH AS TO WHAT IS ALREADY BEING DONE, ONE CAN BEGIN TO IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SPANISH TO DO MORE SO AS TO BUTTRESS THE CASE FOR A CLOSER NATO RELATIONSHIP WITH SPAIN.

6. FROM OUR EXPERIENCE, USNATO WELL AWARE OF HOSTILITY OF CERTAIN ALLIES TO GOS. WE DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE PROBLEM PRESENTED BY DUTCH AND SCANDINAVIAN SELECTIVE INDIGNATION ABOUT LACK OF POLITICAL FREEDOM. NEVERTHELESS, WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON TIMING, WE BELIEVE AN INTELLECTUALLY ACTIVE RATHER THAN PASSIVE APPROACH SHOULD COMMENCE NOW IN PREPARATION FOR THE TIME WHEN IT IS APPROPRIATE OR NECESSARY TO MOVE DIPLOMATICALLY. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE A BRIEFING ON INFORMATION ALONG THE LINES OF PARAS 3 AND 4 ABOVE THAT IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE, AND BEING KEPT INFORMED AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS DEVELOPED. RUMSFELD UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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